



FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31, 2023

HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
MINNEAPOLIS

WELCOME TO ALL

*The people of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church wish to extend a special welcome to all visitors!
Please leave your name and phone number on the visitor card found in the pew.*

*We are committed to the inclusion of all people, with no exception. Therefore, we practice **open communion**, welcoming all to the table to receive the sacrament of Holy Communion.*

Children are full participants in this congregation's worship, educational, and community life! The Mary Martha Room is a quiet space for infants needing to nurse or to nap. For active toddlers, the Community Room has a Children's Corner with books and a table at which to play. Our ushers are ready to assist you in finding the place that best fits your family's needs.

***Accessible and all-gender restrooms** are located in the basement.*

***Single-use, all-gender restrooms** are located on the 1st floor.*

*For over forty years, this congregation has advocated for the **full welcome, inclusion, and equity** of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, intersex, and asexual (LGBTQIA+) Lutherans in all aspects of the church and the community. We invite all people into lives of authenticity, integrity, and wholeness.*

***Hearing assist devices and large-print bulletins** are available. Ask an usher if you are interested.*

*Our **services are livestreamed** on Vimeo and Facebook every week. The live shot includes the main floor of the sanctuary. Our members who watch from home love to see their friends at church! If for privacy reasons you prefer not to be on camera, the balcony is outside of the camera's range.*

*If you are seeking **pastoral care**, please speak to a pastor today.*

+ indicates the congregation should stand

The cover art for today's bulletin was provided by Lorelei Lindorfer. Thank you, Lorelei!

A CHRISTMAS SERVICE OF POETRY AND HYMNODY

PRELUDE

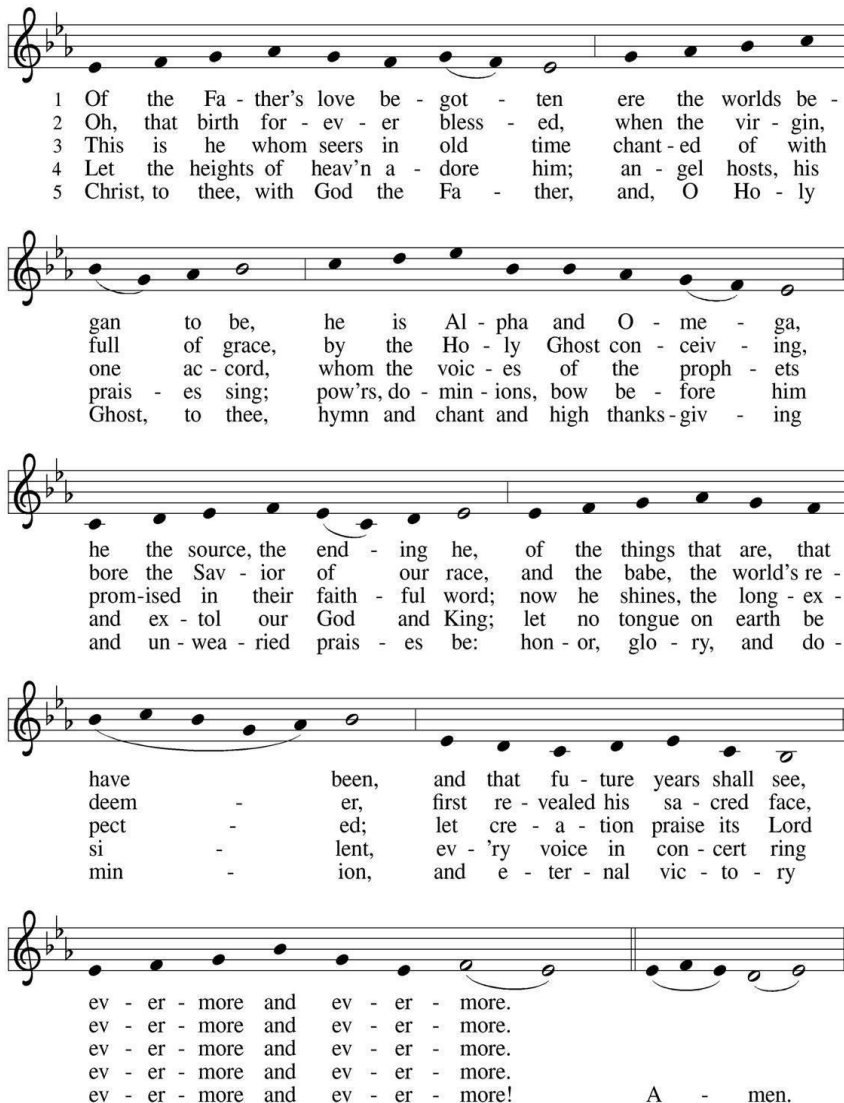
Christmas Carol Trilogy
Noah Scharback, cello

Glenn L. Rudolph

+PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Of the Father's Love Begotten

Please stand and face the cross at the rear of the sanctuary.



1 Of the Fa - ther's love be - got - ten ere the worlds be -
2 Oh, that birth for - ev - er bless - ed, when the vir - gin,
3 This is he whom seers in old time chant - ed of with
4 Let the heights of heav'n a - dore him; an - gel hosts, his
5 Christ, to thee, with God the Fa - ther, and, O Ho - ly

gan to be, he is Al - pha and O - me - ga,
full of grace, by the Ho - ly Ghost con - ceiv - ing,
one ac - cord, whom the voic - es of the proph - ets
prais - es sing; pow'rs, do - min - ions, bow be - fore him
Ghost, to thee, hymn and chant and high thanks - giv - ing

he the source, the end - ing he, of the things that are, that
bore the Sav - ior of our race, and the babe, the world's re -
prom-ised in their faith - ful word; now he shines, the long - ex -
and ex - tol our God and King; let no tongue on earth be
and un - wea - ried prais - es be: hon - or, glo - ry, and do -

have been, and that fu - ture years shall see,
deem - er, first re - vealed his sa - cred face,
pect - ed; let cre - a - tion praise its Lord
si - lent, ev - 'ry voice in con - cert ring
min - ion, and e - ter - nal vic - to - ry

ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
ev - er - more and ev - er - more!

A - men.

+GREETING

The grace of Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

Please be seated.

WELCOME

READINGS AND HYMNS

A reading from the gospel of John, chapter one: ¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being.

In the beginning was the three-pointed star,
One smile of light across the empty face,
One bough of bone across the rooting air,
The substance forked that marrowed the first sun,
And, burning ciphers on the round of space,
Heaven and hell mixed as they spun.

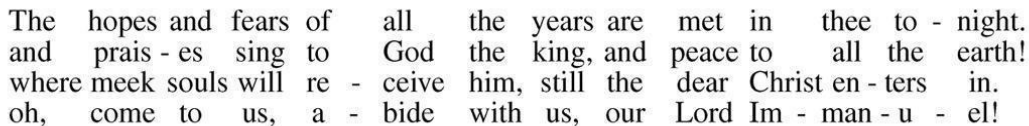
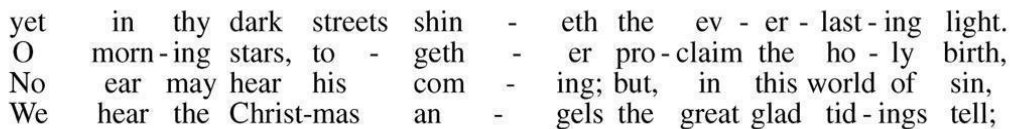
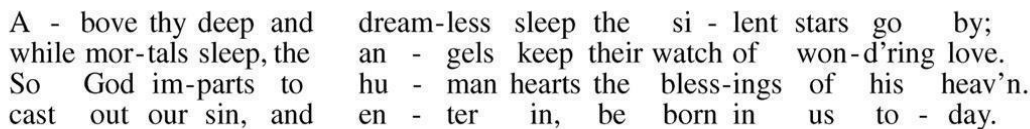
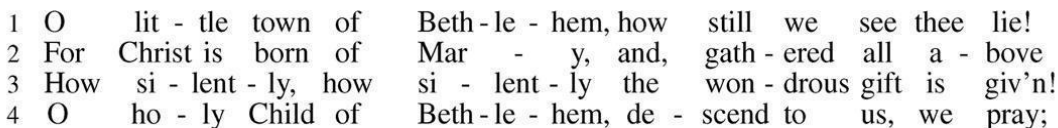
In the beginning was the pale signature,
Three-syllabled and starry as the smile,
And after came the imprints on the water,
Stamp of the minted face upon the moon;
The blood that touched the crosstree and the grail
Touched the first cloud and left a sign.

In the beginning was the mounting fire
That set alight the weathers from a spark,
A three-eyed, red-eyed spark, blunt as a flower,
Life rose and spouted from the rolling seas,
Burst in the roots, pumped from the earth and rock
The secret oils that drive the grass.

In the beginning was the word, the word
That from the solid bases of the light
Abstracted all the letters of the void;
And from the cloudy bases of the breath
The word flowed up, translating to the heart
First characters of birth and death.

In the beginning was the secret brain.
The brain was celled and soldered in the thought
Before the pitch was forking to a sun;
Before the veins were shaking in their sieve,
Blood shot and scattered to the winds of light
The ribbed original of love.

O Little Town of Bethlehem



A reading from the gospel of John: ³What has come into being ⁴in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

POEM

Christmas Carol

Paul Laurence Dunbar

Ring out, ye bells!
All Nature swells
With gladness at the wondrous story, —
The world was lorn,
But Christ is born
To change our sadness into glory.
Sing, earthlings, sing!
To-night a King
Hath come from heaven's high throne to bless us.
The outstretched hand
O'er all the land
Is raised in pity to caress us.
Come at his call;
Be joyful all;
Away with mourning and with sadness!
The heavenly choir
With holy fire
Their voices raise in songs of gladness.
The darkness breaks
And Dawn awakes,
Her cheeks suffused with youthful blushes.
The rocks and stones
In holy tones
Are singing sweeter than the thrushes.
Then why should we
In silence be,
When Nature lends her voice to praises;
When heaven and earth
Proclaim the truth
Of Him for whom that lone star blazes?
No, be not still,
But with a will
Strike all your harps and set them ringing;
On hill and heath
Let every breath
Throw all its power into singing!

HYMN

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

- 1 Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new - born king;
2 Christ, by high - est heav'n a - dored, Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord,
3 Hail the heav'n-born Prince of peace! Hail the Sun of righ - teous - ness!



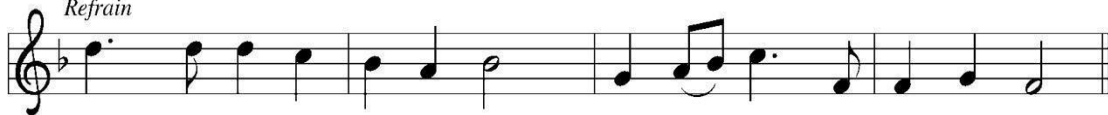
peace on earth, and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled."
late in time be - hold him come, off - spring of a vir - gin's womb.
Light and life to all he brings, ris'n with heal - ing in his wings.



Joy - ful, all you na - tions, rise; join the tri - umph of the skies;
Veiled in flesh the God-head see! Hail, in - car - nate de - i - ty!
Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that we no more may die,



with an - gel - ic hosts pro - claim, "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"
Pleased as man with us to dwell, Je - sus, our Em - man - u - el!
born to raise each child of earth, born to give us sec - ond birth.

Refrain

Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new-born king!"

A reading from the gospel of John: ⁶ There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷ He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸ He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light.

POEM

St. John's Eve

Malcolm Guite

Midsummer night, and bonfires on the hill
Burn for the man who makes way for the Light:
 'He must increase and I diminish still,
 Until his sun illuminates my night.'
So John the Baptist pioneers our path,
Unfolds the essence of the life of prayer,
Unlatches the last doorway into faith,
And makes one inner space an everywhere.
Least of the new and greatest of the old,
Orpheus on the threshold with his lyre,
He sets himself aside, and cries "Behold
The One who stands amongst you comes with fire!"
So keep his fires burning through this night,
Beacons and gateways for the child of light.

HYMN

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

1 Lo, how a rose e'er bloom - ing from ten - der stem hath
 2 I - sai - ah had fore - told it, the rose I have in
 3 This flow'r, whose fra - grance ten - der with sweet-ness fills the
 4 O Sav - ior, child of Mar - y, who felt our hu - man

sprung! Of Jes - se's lin - eage com - ing as
 mind; with Mar - y we be - hold it, the
 air, dis - pels with glo - rious splen - dor, the
 woe; O Sav - ior, king of glo - ry, who

seers of old have sung, it came, a flow'r so bright, a -
 vir - gin moth - er kind. To show God's love a - right, she
 dark-ness ev - 'ry - where. True man, yet ver - y God, from
 dost our weak - ness know: bring us at length, we pray, to

mid the cold of win - ter, when half - spent was the night.
 bore to us a Sav - ior, when half - spent was the night.
 sin and death he saves us and light - ens ev - 'ry load.
 the bright courts of heav - en and in - to end - less day.

A reading from the gospel of John: ⁹The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. ¹⁰He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. ¹¹He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him.

POEM

All of the Branches

Thomas Merton

All of the branches
none of the roots.

All of the words
freedom branches.

All of the words
happiness branches.

All of the words
equality branches.

None of the roots.

All of the branches
None of the roots.

HYMN

What Child Is This?

- 1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mar - y's lap is sleep - ing?
- 2 Why lies he in such mean es - tate where ox and ass are feed - ing?
- 3 So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; come, peas - ant, king, to own him.



Whom an - gels greet with an-thems sweet while shep-herds watch are keep - ing?
Good Chris-tian, fear; for sin-ners here the si - lent Word is plead - ing.
The King of kings sal - va - tion brings; let lov - ing hearts en-throne him.



This, this is Christ the king, whom shep-herds guard and an - gels sing;
Nails, spear shall pierce him through, the cross be borne for me, for you;
Raise, raise the song on high, the vir - gin sings her lul - la - by;



haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mar - y!
hail, hail the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mar - y!
joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mar - y!

A reading from the gospel of John: ¹²But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, ¹³who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

POEM

On How to Be a Manger

Barbara S. Germiot

Be empty
Be sturdy
Be soft inside
Be still
Be ready

HYMN

Away in a Manger



1 A - way in a man - ger, no crib for his bed,
2 The cat - tle are low - ing; the ba - by a - wakes,
3 Be near me, Lord Je - sus; I ask you to stay



the lit - tle Lord Je - sus laid down his sweet head;
but lit - tle Lord Je - sus, no cry - ing he makes.
close by me for - ev - er and love me, I pray.



the stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
I love you, Lord Je - sus; look down from the sky
Bless all the dear chil - dren in your ten - der care



the lit - tle Lord Je - sus a - sleep on the hay.
and stay by my cra - dle till morn - ing is night.
and fit us for heav - en, to live with you there.

A reading from the gospel of John: ¹⁴And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

POEM

Amazing Peace: A Christmas Poem

Maya Angelou

Thunder rumbles in the mountain passes
And lightning rattles the eaves of our houses.
Flood waters await us in our avenues.
Snow falls upon snow, falls upon snow to avalanche
Over unprotected villages.
The sky slips low and grey and threatening.
We question ourselves.
What have we done to so affront nature?
We worry God.
Are you there? Are you there really?
Does the covenant you made with us still hold?
Into this climate of fear and apprehension, Christmas enters,
Streaming lights of joy, ringing bells of hope
And singing carols of forgiveness high up in the bright air.
The world is encouraged to come away from rancor,
Come the way of friendship.
It is the Glad Season.
Thunder ebbs to silence and lightning sleeps quietly in the corner.
Flood waters recede into memory.
Snow becomes a yielding cushion to aid us
As we make our way to higher ground.
Hope is born again in the faces of children
It rides on the shoulders of our aged as they walk into their sunsets.
Hope spreads around the earth. Brightening all things,
Even hate which crouches breeding in dark corridors.
In our joy, we think we hear a whisper.
At first it is too soft. Then only half heard.
We listen carefully as it gathers strength.
We hear a sweetness.
The word is Peace.
It is loud now. It is louder.
Louder than the explosion of bombs.

We tremble at the sound. We are thrilled by its presence.
It is what we have hungered for.
Not just the absence of war. But, true Peace.
A harmony of spirit, a comfort of courtesies.
Security for our beloveds and their beloveds.
We clap hands and welcome the Peace of Christmas.
We beckon this good season to wait a while with us.
We, Baptist and Buddhist, Methodist and Muslim, say come.
Peace.
Come and fill us and our world with your majesty.
We, the Jew and the Jainist, the Catholic and the Confucian,
Implore you, to stay a while with us.
So we may learn by your shimmering light
How to look beyond complexion and see community.
It is Christmas time, a halting of hate time.
On this platform of peace, we can create a language
To translate ourselves to ourselves and to each other.
At this Holy Instant, we celebrate the Birth of Jesus Christ
Into the great religions of the world.
We jubilate the precious advent of trust.
We shout with glorious tongues at the coming of hope.
All the earth's tribes loosen their voices
To celebrate the promise of Peace.
We, Angels and Mortal's, Believers and Non-Believers,
Look heavenward and speak the word aloud.
Peace. We look at our world and speak the word aloud.
Peace. We look at each other, then into ourselves
And we say without shyness or apology or hesitation.
Peace, My Brother.
Peace, My Sister.
Peace, My Soul.

HYMN

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence



- 1 Let all mor - tal flesh keep si - lence, and with fear and trem - bling stand;
- 2 King of kings, yet born of Mar - y, as of old on earth he stood,
- 3 Rank on rank the host of heav - en spreads its van-guard on the way;
- 4 At his feet the six - winged ser - aph, cher - u - bim with sleep - less eye,



pon - der noth - ing earth - ly - mind - ed, for with bless - ing in his hand
 Lord of lords in hu - man ves - ture, in the bod - y and the blood,
 as the Light of light, de - scend - ing from the realms of end - less day,
 veil their fac - es to the pres - ence, as with cease - less voice they cry:



Christ our God to earth de - scend - ing comes full hom - age to de - mand.
 he will give to all the faith - ful his own self for heav'n - ly food.
 comes, the pow'rs of hell to van - quish, as the dark - ness clears a - way.
 "Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia, Lord Most High!"

+INTERCESSIONS

Sundays and Seasons

Trusting in God's good news of great joy for all people, we offer our prayers for ourselves, our neighbors, and the world God loves.

A brief silence.

You inspire faith in our hearts and call us to rejoice with our whole selves at the salvation you bring. Make our churches places of belonging for all people in the fullness of their being. Raise up the gifts and the witness of people who are neurodivergent, living with disability, or bearing invisible illness. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Your praise is sung throughout creation in all times and seasons. As the new year turns, ground us in your changeless and sustaining love. Keep us attentive to all that is happening in the world, especially in the birthplace of Jesus. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Sustain all people who, like Simeon and Anna, have been waiting for salvation and wholeness, especially Ben Hanson's grandmother, Kay Hanson; Gerry Berglin; Mary Heltsley's nephew Michael Frey; Caren Hiatt's sister-in-law, Shannon; Annie Hines's son, Nick Hines; Joyce Hanson; Arnie Johanson; Katie Schroeder's mom, Diane; Dorothy Kelly; Cori Gershon; and those we name now, either silently or aloud (*the congregation may name loved ones in need of God's care*). Compassionate God,. We pray especially for anyone living with cancer or chronic illness, all people who are in physical rehabilitation or addiction recovery, and those experiencing complications from long COVID. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Let this community of faith be a joyful and welcome place for all ages and generations. Teach us to honor the wisdom of children, the inquisitiveness of youth, the thoughtfulness of adults, and the knowledge of elders. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

You are invited to offer spoken petitions.

*At the conclusion of your petition, please close with "Hear us, O God,"
to which the congregation will reply "Your mercy is great."*

Abide with us, O God of mercy, and receive our prayers according to your abundant grace.

Amen.

+PEACE

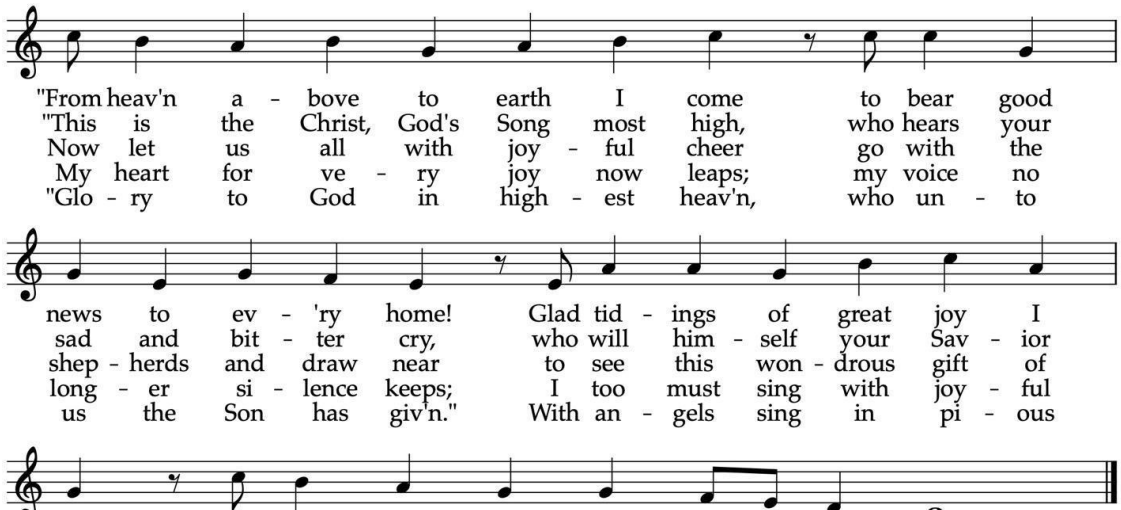
The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

You are invited to exchange words and signs of friendship and love with those around you.

OFFERING

+OFFERING HYMN

From Heaven Above



"From heav'n a - bove to earth I come to bear good
"This is the Christ, God's Song most high, who hears your
Now let us all with joy - ful cheer go with the
My heart for ve - ry joy now leaps; my voice no
"Glo - ry to God in high - est heav'n, who un - to

news to ev - 'ry home! Glad tid - ings of great joy I
sad and bit - ter cry, who will him - self your Sav - ior
shep - herds and draw near to see this won - drous gift of
long - er si - lence keeps; I too must sing with joy - ful
us the Son has giv'n." With an - gels sing in pi - ous

bring to all the world, and glad - ly sing:
be and from all sin will set from you free."
God, the bless - ed child to us - be - stowed.
tongue the sweet - est an - cient cra - dle - song:
mirth a glad new year to all the earth!

+OFFERING PRAYER

Eternal God, you choose to be born among us every day. We praise you! Receive these simple gifts of bread, wine, and money, and make us messengers of your mercy and love for all in need of your healing and justice. We ask this through Christ our Savior.

Amen.

+GREAT THANKSGIVING

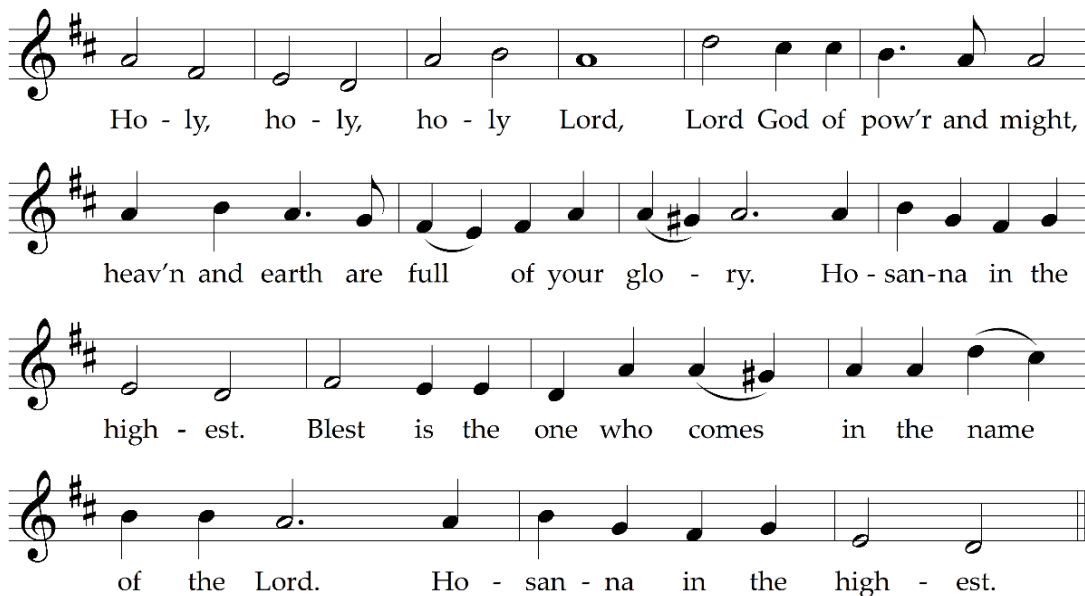
The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, O God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

+SANCTUS



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san-na in the
high - est. Blest is the one who comes in the name
of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

+WORDS OF INSTITUTION

+LORD'S PRAYER

We pray together,

**Our Creator, Our Mother, Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

+LAMB OF GOD



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

Please be seated.

COMMUNION INVITATION

All are welcome at the table. For those worshipping at home, hear these words spoken for you: The body of Christ given for you. The blood of Christ shed for you.

These are the gifts of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

Grape juice and gluten-free wafers are available upon request to the server.

An usher will direct you down the center aisle, where you can pick up a communion cup. You are invited to stand or kneel in front of the table, beginning from the middle and moving toward the outside. After you have received the bread and the wine, please return to your seat by way of the side aisle, where an usher will receive your communion cup.

If you wish to receive communion from a pastor in your pew, please let an usher know.

SOLO

Suite 2 in d minor
Noah Scharback, cello

J. S. Bach

+BLESSING

The body and blood of Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's grace.

Amen.

+POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Faithful God, in this meal you have remembered your mercy, bringing heaven to earth in the body and blood of Christ. As we wait for the day when all your promises will be fulfilled, sustain us and strengthen us by this holy mystery. Guide us toward your promised future, coming to birth in Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

+RECESSIONAL HYMN

Go Tell It on the Mountain

Refrain



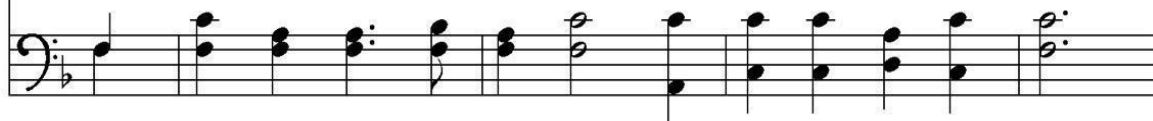
Go tell it on the moun - tain, o-ver the hills and ev - 'ry - where;



go tell it on the moun - tain that Je - sus Christ is born!



- 1 While shep-herds kept their watch-ing o'er si - lent flocks by night,
- 2 The shep-herds feared and trem-bled when, lo, a - bove the earth
- 3 Down in a lone - ly man - ger the hum-ble Christ was born;



Refrain



be - hold, through-out the heav-ens there shone a ho - ly light.
rang out the an - gel cho - rus that hailed our Sav - ior's birth.
and God sent us sal - va - tion that bless-ed Christ-mas morn.



+BENEDICTION

When the Song of the Angels Is Stilled

Howard Thurman

When the song of the angels is stilled,
When the star in the sky is gone,
When the kings and the princes are home,
When the shepherds are back with their flocks,
The work of Christmas begins:
To find the lost,
To heal the broken,
To feed the hungry,
To release the prisoner,
To rebuild the nations,
To bring peace among people,
To make music in the heart.

+DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Merry Christmas!
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

*You are invited to the Community Room
(located at the rear of the worship area) for a time of conversation and refreshments.*

"Of the Father's Love Begotten" Text: Marcus Aurelius Clemens Prudentius, 348-413; tr. composite
Music: DIVINUM MYSTERIUM, plainsong mode V, 13th cent.

"O Little Town of Bethlehem" Text: Phillips Brooks, 1835-1893. Music: FOREST GREEN, English folk tune
"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, alt.
Music: MENDELSSOHN, Felix Mendelssohn, 1809-1847; arr. William H. Cummings, 1831-1915

"Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming" Text: German carol, 15th cent.; tr. Theodore Baker, 1851-1934, sts. 1-2; Harriet R. Krauth,
1845-1925, st. 3; John C. Mattes, 1876-1948, st. 4
Music: ES IST EIN ROS, 'Alte catholische geistliche Kirchengesänge', Köln, 1599; arr. Michael Praetorius

"What Child Is This" Text: William C. Dix, 1837-1898 Music: GREENSLEEVES, English ballad, 16th cent.

"Away in a Manger" Text: North American, 19th cent. Music: CRADLE SONG, William J. Kirkpatrick, 1838-1921
"Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence" Text: Liturgy of St. James; tr. Gerard Moultrie, 1829-1855, alt.
Music: PICARDY, French folk tune, 17th cent.

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"Infant Holy, Infant Lowly" Text: Polish carol; tr. Edith M. G. Reed, 1885-1933, alt.

"Go Tell It on the Mountain" Text: African American spiritual, refrain; John W. Work Jr., 1872-1925, stanzas, alt.
Music: GO TELL IT, African American spiritual

*Prayer of the Day: "Prayer written by Rev. Jill Rode as part of the Holy Trinity Lutheran Church (Minneapolis, MN)
expansive prayer project. Used by permission."*

"From Heaven Above" Text: Martin Luther, 1483-1546; tr. 'Lutheran Book of Worship'
Music: VOM HIMMEL HOCH, attr. Martin Luther; V. Schumann, 'Geistliche Lieder', 1539

Artwork: Wesley, Frank, 1923-2002. Blue Madonna, from *Art in the Christian Tradition*, a project of the Vanderbilt
Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. Original source: Estate of Frank Wesley.

HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

2730 East 31st Street, Minneapolis, MN 55406

612-729-8358 ☒ htlcmpls.org

LITURGY: *POETRY AND HYMNODY COMPILED BY REV. PAUL HOFFMAN*

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

	10:00 AM
Presiding Minister	David Larson-Martínez
Assisting Minister	Carol Masters
Crucifer	
Communion	Matt Floding, Zoe Martinez, David Berg
Ushers	Julie Cahoy
Altar Guild	Julie Cahoy, Carol Berg
Coffee Servers	Joy Nelson, Connie Adams
Video Operator	Bob Hulteen
Closer	Bob Hulteen

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STAFF

Ingrid Rasmussen, *Lead Pastor*

David Larson-Martínez, *Associate Pastor*

Doug Mork, *Part-time Associate Pastor*

Kathy Ekwall, *Communications & Congregational Coordinator*

Nolan Gusdal, *Building Maintenance*

Phil Radtke, *Cantor*

Kaia Ellis, *Financial Administrator*

STAFF, CONTINUED

Sue Roberts, *Publications Coordinator*

Erik Gerhardt, *Accompanist*

Dennis Nordholm, *Custodian*

Dana Simms, *Custodian*

Logan Olson, *Gloria Ringers Director*

LEADERSHIP

Allison Johnson Heist, *Council President*

Gretchen Lund, *Council Vice President*

Erin Henry, *Council Secretary*

Katie Schroeder, *Council Treasurer*

P A R I S H I N F O R M A T I O N

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO HELP WITH WEDNESDAY CHOIR FAMILY MEALS

Volunteers should plan to make enough food for at least 12 children and 8 adults. Usually 4-8 people request vegetarian options. You may use the church kitchen if you prefer. Please be ready to serve by 5:00 p.m. Supper starts at 5:00 p.m. and wraps up at 6:30 p.m. We are happy to reimburse you for everything! Simply submit your receipts to Pastor David. A sign-up sheet with more information is available in the Community Room.

YOGA CLASSES AT HOLY TRINITY, STARTING JANUARY 10

Regardless of who you are, what you look like, or whom you love, James Orione believes that creating a space for everybody is very important. Society places many expectations and roles as to how, what, when, where, and why you are doing something instead of simply being. Through conscious movement connected to breath, you have an opportunity to learn how to be in this moment. Yoga is an opportunity to create, rediscover, and connect to the experience of being human and overcome the obstacles that stand in your path. Join us weekly, Wednesdays at Noon or Thursdays at 7:30 p.m. beginning Wednesday, January 10 and Thursday, January 11.

SAVE THE DATE FOR MICRO-AGGRESSION/INCLUSION WORKSHOP JANUARY 13

On Saturday, January 13, from 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m., there will be one more workshop on micro-aggressions and micro-inclusions at Holy Trinity led by Joe Davis and David Scherer. This event is both for those who attended the workshops in the fall of 2022 and 2023 and for those who are new participants. There will be a brief review of the earlier workshops and then new material that explores racial microaggressions. As in the past, Joe and David make this learning event both deeply meaningful and fun. Sign-up in the Community Room or email your interest to Libby Olstad (libbyolstad@icloud.com).

ANNUAL MEETING SUNDAY, JANUARY 28, 11:00 A.M.

On Sunday, January 28, 2024, we will have one service only at 10:00 a.m., followed by lunch and the Annual Meeting at 11:00 a.m. All are invited to the gym as we celebrate the 120th year of God's ministry through Holy Trinity Lutheran Church. We will review committee goals, elect new council members, and approve the 2024 budget. The annual meeting is also an opportunity for us to check on our progress made toward congregational goals.

Poinsettias in the chancel area were given in loving memory or honor of

Parents, by David & Carol Berg

Loved ones, by Joyce Peterson

Paul Eid, who spent many Christmas seasons producing beautiful church choir concerts,

by Lois Eid

Loved ones, by Pat Lundquist

Violet Wells, by the Wells Family

John Kelly, by Carol Kelly

Pamela, by David Rediger

Ralph and Joyce Schenk, by Carol Johnson

Hugh Parks, Ron Peterson, and Bud & Sylvia Dixen, by Sally Parks

**Cathy Skalnican, Ed and Helen Opila, Alice Opila, Rita and Jim Higgins, Mike Higgins,
and Cindy Malm**, by Mary Opila and Marge Higgins

All the children suffering from war, by Michael and Marilyn Miller

Lila Meyer, by Anna Brelje

Nathalie Johnson, by Tony Parsons

Steve Padgitt, by Noelle, Shaun, and Simon Morrell

Parents, by Bev and Bob Peschiutta

Sister, Marlyce, by Bev Peschiutta

Los abuelos and Los padres, by the Martinez family

Linda Gawthrop, by Rosemary Foley

Kathy Morgen, by Barbara and Steven Benson

Husband Del Anderson and sister & brother-in-law Marge and Shelly Torgerson,
by Betty Anderson

Jason SantaAna-White, by Ann White

P A R I S H S C H E D U L E

Monday, January 1		Office Closed
Tuesday, January 2	11:00 AM 2:00 PM	Worship Readings Discussion Knitting Group
Thursday, January 4	6:45 PM	Big Meeting Night
Sunday, January 7	8:45 AM 10:00 AM 10:00 AM 11:00 AM 2:00 PM	Worship Service of Holy Communion Adult Forum Youth Education Worship Service of Holy Communion Swahili Service

ADULT FORUM

10:00 a.m. in the Library

NO ADULT FORUM TODAY

January 7 “Anti-Zionism vs. Anti-Semitism and Christian Zionism”

Rabbi Jessica Rosenberg

Rabbi Jessica Rosenberg from Jewish Voice for Peace recently became known for confronting President Biden at an event in Northfield. Ordained in 2018, she is a rabbi with the progressive reconstructionist Jewish movement. She will talk about Anti-Zionism vs. Anti-Semitism and Christian Zionism. This is a timely opportunity to learn more about these current topics.

"Rosenberg has been described as a member of the LGBTQ+ community and in 2020 wrote a handbook on "trauma, healing and resistance" for Jewish leaders and activists." - *Newsweek*